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**SUBJECT: U.S. Armed Forces Family Supplemental Subsistence Allowance –
Permanently Excluded from Income Consideration for the Child
Nutrition Programs**

NSLP – 79.1

Replaces NSLP-64.1 and NSLP-79

CACFP – 98

Replaces CACFP-51.1 and CACFP-67

CACFPDCH – 90

Replaces CACFPDCH-36.1 and CACFPDCH-58

SFSP – 35.1

Replaces SFSP-26.1 and SFSP-35

TO: Authorized Representatives

FROM: Child and Adult Nutrition Services

This information should be shared with the person who approves applications for free and reduced price meals and the original should be placed in the numbered memo notebook from Child and Adult Nutrition Services. The memo is also available on the Child & Adult Nutrition Services website.

Public Law 109-163 (January 6, 2006) made the Department of Defense's Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA) permanently available. Therefore, the exclusion of the FSSA as income for the Child Nutrition programs is also permanent.

Since May 2001, the Department of Defense has paid certain members of the Armed Forces and their families a Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA). The FSSA is designed to bring a household's income up to 130% of the Federal poverty line and decrease the reliance on Food Stamps for affected members and their families. Previously, for purposes of Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) eligibility determination, the FSSA payments were counted as earned income for households (see Q and A 2 on page 37 of the August 2001, *Eligibility Guidance for School Meals Manual*).

The FSSA payments are not the same as the Family Separation Supplement which is for households that have a family member who is deployed.

In accordance with Public Law 109-163, any FSSA that a household receives must not be treated as income in determining eligibility for free and reduced price meals under any of the Child Nutrition Programs. This memorandum supersedes the previously issued policies regarding FSSA.